

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An optical disk apparatus comprising:

a rotation control portion controls rotating of an optical disk having an information recording layer;

5 an optical head which irradiates the optical disk which is rotated by the rotation control portion, with a laser beam or receives reflected wave, and performs recording processing or reproducing processing;

10 a waiting position decision portion which detects physical properties of each region in the optical disk after the recording processing or reproducing processing is finished, and decides a waiting position of the optical head according to the physical properties; and

15 a control portion which controls a position of the optical head according to the waiting position decided by the waiting position decision portion in order to move the optical head to wait.

20 2. An optical disk apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the waiting position decision portion detects physical properties of each region in the optical disk from the reflected wave from the optical disk by the optical head, and distinguishes the information recording layer into an unrecorded region and a recorded region where the recording processing  
25 has been performed on the basis of the detection.

3. An optical disk apparatus according to

claim 1, wherein the waiting position decision portion detects physical properties of each region in the optical disk from the reflected wave from the optical disk by the optical head, distinguishes the information recording layer into an unrecorded region and a  
5 recorded region where the recording processing has been performed on the basis of the detection, and decides the waiting position at a position before a boundary line of the unrecorded region by a predetermined amount  
10 toward the side of the recorded region.

4. An optical disk apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the waiting position decision portion detects physical properties of each region in the optical disk from the reflected wave from the optical  
15 disk with the optical head, and distinguishes the information recording layer into an unrecorded region and a recorded region where the recording processing has been performed on the basis of the detection, recognizes the recordable region where recording  
20 processing can be performed in the recorded region when the unrecorded region is absent, and decides the waiting position before the recordable region.

5. An optical disk apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the waiting position decision portion  
25 and the control portion detect physical properties of each region in the optical disk from the reflected wave from the optical disk with by optical head, distinguish

the information recording layer into an unrecorded region and a recorded region where the recording processing has been performed on the basis of the detection, and further decide the waiting position at a position before a boundary line of the unrecorded region by a first predetermined amount toward the side of the recorded region so as to move the optical head, and decide the waiting position at a position before the boundary line of the unrecorded region by a second predetermined amount when an instruction of the recording processing or the reproducing processing is absent after a predetermined time interval so as to move the optical head.

6. An optical disk apparatus according to claim 1, wherein, when the waiting position decision portion detects physical properties of each region in the optical disk from the reflected wave from the optical disk by the optical head and distinguishes the information recording layer into an unrecorded region and a recorded region where the recording processing has been performed on the basis of the detection, when the unrecorded region is present in each of a plurality of recording layers of the optical disk, the waiting position decision portion gives priority to the unrecorded region located in the recording layer on the side of the optical head, and decides the waiting position at a position before a boundary line of the

unrecorded region by a predetermined amount toward the side of the recorded region.

7. An optical disk apparatus according to claim 1, wherein, when the waiting position decision  
5 portion detects physical properties of each region in the optical disk from the reflected wave from the optical disk by the optical head and distinguishes the information recording layer into an unrecorded region and a recorded region where the recording processing  
10 has been performed on the basis of the detection, when the unrecorded region is present in each of a groove and a land of the optical disk, the waiting position decision portion gives priority to the unrecorded region located in the recording layer of the groove,  
15 and decides the waiting position at a position before the boundary line of the unrecorded region by a predetermined amount toward the side of the recorded region.

8. An optical disk apparatus according to claim 1, wherein after the waiting position decision  
20 portion detects physical properties of each region in the optical disk from the reflected wave from the optical disk by the optical head, and decides an unrecorded region in which the optical head waits or a  
25 recorded region where the recording processing has been performed on the basis of the detection,

the waiting position decision portion decides the

waiting position on an inner radius side of the  
unrecorded region or recordable region, when the  
optical disk has a track structure in which the  
recording is performed from an inner radius to an outer  
5 radius, and

decides the waiting position on an outer radius  
side of the unrecorded region or recordable region,  
when the optical disk has the track structure in which  
the recording is performed from the outer radius to the  
10 inner radius.

9. An optical disk apparatus according to  
claim 1, wherein the rotation control portion  
separately controls rotational speed of a plurality of  
zones provided in the optical disk, when a first zone  
15 including the waiting position is different from a  
second zone where the optical head performs recording  
processing or reproducing processing, the rotation  
control portion causes the optical head to wait at the  
waiting position while the rotation control portion  
20 controls the optical disk so as to rotate the optical  
disk at rotational speed according to the second zone.

10. An optical disk apparatus comprising:  
an optical head which irradiates an optical disk  
having an information recording layer with a laser beam  
25 or receives reflected wave, and performs recording  
processing or reproducing processing;

a waiting position decision portion which detects

physical properties of each region in the optical disk when the optical disk is newly mounted and detected by the optical head, and decides a waiting position of the optical head according to the physical properties; and

5           a control portion which controls a position of the optical head according to the waiting position decided by the waiting position decision portion in order to move the optical head to wait.

11. A waiting method of an optical disk apparatus  
10       having an optical head which irradiates an optical disk having an information recording layer with a laser beam or receives reflected wave and performs recording processing or reproducing processing, comprising:

          rotating the optical disk at predetermined  
15       rotation speed;

          detecting physical properties of each region in the rotating optical disk after the recording processing or reproducing processing is finished, and deciding a waiting position of the optical head  
20       according to the detection; and

          controlling a position of the optical head according to the decided waiting position in order to move the optical head to wait.

12. A waiting method according to claim 11,  
25       wherein the waiting position decision detects physical properties of each region in the optical disk from the reflected wave from the optical disk by the optical

head, and distinguishes the information recording layer into an unrecorded region and a recorded region where the recording processing has been performed on the basis of the detection.

5           13. A waiting method according to claim 11,  
wherein the waiting position decision detects physical properties of each region in the optical disk from the reflected wave from the optical disk by the optical head, distinguishes the information recording layer  
10 into an unrecorded region and a recorded region where the recording processing has been performed on the basis of the detection, and decides the waiting position at a position before a boundary line of the unrecorded region by a predetermined amount toward the  
15 side of the recorded region.

          14. A waiting method according to claim 11,  
wherein the waiting position decision detects physical properties of each region in the optical disk from the reflected wave from the optical disk with the optical  
20 head, and distinguishes the information recording layer into an unrecorded region and a recorded region where the recording processing has been performed on the basis of the detection, recognizes the recordable region where recording processing can be performed in  
25 the recorded region when the unrecorded region is absent, and decides the waiting position before the recordable region.

15. A waiting method according to claim 11,  
wherein the waiting position decision and the control  
detect physical properties of each region in the  
optical disk from the reflected wave from the optical  
5 disk with by optical head, distinguish the information  
recording layer into an unrecorded region and a  
recorded region where the recording processing has been  
performed on the basis of the detection, and further  
decide the waiting position at a position before a  
10 boundary line of the unrecorded region by a first  
predetermined amount toward the side of the recorded  
region so as to move the optical head, and decide the  
waiting position at a position before the boundary line  
of the unrecorded region by a second predetermined  
15 amount when an instruction of the recording processing  
or the reproducing processing is absent after a  
predetermined time interval so as to move the optical  
head.

16. A waiting method according to claim 11,  
20 wherein, when the waiting position decision detects  
physical properties of each region in the optical disk  
from the reflected wave from the optical disk by the  
optical head and distinguishes the information  
recording layer into an unrecorded region and a  
25 recorded region where the recording processing has been  
performed on the basis of the detection, when the  
unrecorded region is present in each of a plurality of



recording layers of the optical disk, the waiting position decision gives priority to the unrecorded region located in the recording layer on the side of the optical head, and decides the waiting position at a position before a boundary line of the unrecorded region by a predetermined amount toward the side of the recorded region.

17. A waiting method according to claim 11, wherein, when the waiting position decision detects physical properties of each region in the optical disk from the reflected wave from the optical disk by the optical head and distinguishes the information recording layer into an unrecorded region and a recorded region where the recording processing has been performed on the basis of the detection, when the unrecorded region is present in each of a groove and a land of the optical disk, the waiting position decision gives priority to the unrecorded region located in the recording layer of the groove, and decides the waiting position at a position before the boundary line of the unrecorded region by a predetermined amount toward the side of the recorded region.

18. A waiting method according to claim 11, wherein after the waiting position decision detects physical properties of each region in the optical disk from the reflected wave from the optical disk by the optical head, and decides an unrecorded region in which

the optical head waits or a recorded region where the recording processing has been performed on the basis of the detection,

5       the waiting position decision decides the waiting position on an inner radius side of the unrecorded region or recordable region, when the optical disk has a track structure in which the recording is performed from an inner radius to an outer radius, and

10       decides the waiting position on an outer radius side of the unrecorded region or recordable region, when the optical disk has the track structure in which the recording is performed from the outer radius to the inner radius.

15       19. A waiting method according to claim 11, wherein the rotating of the optical disk separately controls rotational speed of a plurality of zones provided in the optical disk, when a first zone including the waiting position is different from a second zone where the optical head performs recording  
20       processing or reproducing processing, the rotation control portion causes the optical head to wait at the waiting position while the rotation control portion controls the optical disk so as to rotate the optical disk at rotational speed according to the second zone.